

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled)

Claim 11 (New): A composition comprising an alkoxylate of the formula (I)



where

A is propyleneoxy, buteneoxy or penteneoxy,

n is a number in the range from 1 to 8,

m is a number in the range from 2 to 20,

and one or more additives.

Claim 12 (New): The composition of claim 11, wherein the composition is selected from surfactant compositions for the cleaning of hard surface, humectant compositions, cosmetic compositions, pharmaceutical compositions, crop protection compositions, paint compositions, coating compositions, adhesive compositions, leather degreasing compositions, compositions for metalworking, compositions for food industry, compositions for water treatment, compositions for paper industry, fermentation compositions, mineral processing compositions and emulsions for polymerizations.

Claim 13 (New): The composition as claimed in claim 11, wherein, in the formula (I), n is a number in the range from 1 to 6, and m is a number in the range from 3 to 14.

Claim 14 (New): The composition as claimed in claim 11, wherein, in the formula (I), the radical C_5H_{11} has the meaning $n-C_5H_{11}$, $C_2H_5CH(CH_3)CH_2$ or $CH_3CH(CH_3)CH_2CH_2$, or mixtures of two or more of these compounds.

Claim 15 (New): An alkoxylate of the formula (I)



where

A is propyleneoxy, buteneoxy or penteneoxy,

n is a number in the range from 1.2 to 1.8, if A is buteneoxy, from 1 to 1.8,

m is a number in the range from 3 to 14.

Claim 16 (New): The alkoxylate as claimed in claim 15, wherein, in the formula (I), n is a number in the range from 1.3 to 1.7 and m is a number in the range from 3 to 12.

Claim 17 (New): The alkoxylate as claimed in claims 15, wherein, in the formula (I), the radical C_5H_{11} has the meaning $n-C_5H_{11}$, $C_2H_5CH(CH_3)CH_2$ or $CH_3CH(CH_3)CH_2CH_2$, or mixtures of two or more of these compounds.

Claim 18 (New): A process for the preparation of the alkoxylate as claimed in claim 15, comprising reacting an alcohol of the formula $C_5H_{11}CH(C_3H_7)CH_2OH$ first with propylene oxide and then with ethylene oxide under alkoxylation conditions, wherein the alkoxylation is carried out in the presence of a double-metal cyanide compound as catalyst.

Claim 19 (New): The process as claimed in claim 18, wherein the alcohol of the formula $C_5H_{11}CH(C_3H_7)CH_2OH$ is obtained by alkaline dimerization of valeraldehyde to give an α,β -unsaturated aldehyde, and subsequent hydrogenation.

Claim 20 (New): A composition comprising the alkoxylate of claim 15, wherein the composition is selected from emulsifier compositions, foam regulator compositions, wetting agent compositions, cleaning compositions, wetting compositions, coating compositions, adhesive compositions, leather degreasing compositions, humectant compositions, cosmetic compositions, pharmaceutical compositions or crop protection compositions.

Claim 21 (New): A composition comprising an alkoxylate prepared by the process of claim 18, wherein the composition is selected from emulsifier compositions, foam regulator compositions, wetting agent compositions, cleaning compositions, wetting compositions, coating compositions, adhesive compositions, leather degreasing compositions, humectant compositions, cosmetic compositions, pharmaceutical compositions or crop protection compositions.

Claim 22 (New): A method of cleaning a hard surface, comprising contacting the composition of claim 11 with the hard surface.

Claim 23 (New): A method of protecting one or more crops, comprising contacting the composition of claim 11 with one or more crops.

Claim 24 (New): A method of degreasing leather, comprising contacting the composition of claim 11 with leather.

Claim 25 (New): A method of processing metal, comprising contacting the composition of claim 11 with metal.

Claim 26 (New): A method of treating water, comprising contacting the composition of claim 11 with a supply of water.

Claim 27 (New): A method of processing paper, comprising contacting the composition of claim 11 with a paper or pulp source.

Claim 28 (New): A method of processing minerals, comprising contacting the composition of claim 11 with a mineral source.

Claim 29 (New): A method of polymerization, comprising contacting the composition of claim 11 with one or more monomers.

Claim 30 (New): A method of wetting a surface, comprising contacting the composition of claim 11 with the surface.